

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:696
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2016
Gas Pipeline Project of GAIL
Vellaigounder Shri Elumalai

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the proposed Kochi-Kootanad-Mangaluru-Bengaluru gas pipeline project of GAIL India Limited and is likely to severely impact the agricultural property of thousands of farmers in several districts of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government of Tamil Nadu has suggested and made a representation to the Government to realign the said pipeline route along the highways and to resolve the said issue through a constructive and accommodative approach; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) & (b): The Kochi-Kootanad-Mangaluru-Bengaluru gas pipeline (KKMBPL) project of GAIL is passing through the states of Kerala, Tamilnadu and Karnataka. The Right of User (RoU) in land is being acquired as per the provisions of the Petroleum & Minerals Pipelines (P&MP) Act, 1962 across the country including the state of Tamilnadu. Acquisition of the RoU in land for the KKMBPL project for laying of gas pipeline is not permanent acquisition and the ownership of the land remains with the land-owner(s). Once the pipeline is laid, the land is restored to the farmers and they can continue the agricultural activities. Only construction of permanent structures/buildings, plantation of deep rooted trees etc. are not allowed in the acquired RoU. Compensation is paid to land owner(s) for the affected area of land and damages or loss sustained due to removal of trees and/or standing crops, temporary severance of the affected area of land or in the occupation of affected person and any damage/ injury to any other movable or immovable property in the affected area of land or the earnings of such person etc. as per applicable provisions of P&MP Act, 1962.

(c) & (d): The Government had received a suggestion from the State Government of Tamil Nadu for re-alignment of the KKMBPL route along the national highways. The State Government of Tamil Nadu has constituted an expert committee for route selection including feasibility study for laying pipeline along National Highways/State Highways/Roads and requested for nomination of officials of GAIL for the expert committee. Accordingly, the Government of India has conveyed the nomination of three members to the Government of Tamil Nadu for participating in the said expert committee meeting on being convened and requested Government of Tamil Nadu to fix an appropriate compensation package to facilitate smooth acquisition of hindrance free RoU in land as a constructive and accommodative approach.
